

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments and remarks herein.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-30 will be pending. By this amendment, claims 1-5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 16-20, 23, and 26-28 have been amended, and claims 14, 15, 29, and 30 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

In the Specification, the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 8 has been amended to correct minor typographical problems.

In amended Figure 13, a designation for the output from element 24D has been changed from $x_{min}(i,j)$ to $x_{mm}(i,j)$.

Each of amended Figures 30-32 has been designated by the legend --(Prior Art)--.

Objections to the Drawings

In Sections 2 and 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to Figures 13 and 30-32. Figures 13 and 30-32 have been amended as presented above in the Amendments to the Drawings section. It is submitted that the amended figures obviate the objection and so it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

Objections to the Specification

In Section 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner has objected to the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 8. An amended paragraph is presented above in the Amendments to the Specification section. It is submitted that this amended paragraph obviates the objection and so it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

§112 Rejection of Claims 2-4 and 17-19

In Section 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 2-4 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for having insufficient antecedent bases. Claims 2-4 and 17-19 have been amended to obviate this rejection. Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner's rejection of claims 2-4 and 17-19 based upon 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, has been obviated and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

§102 Rejection of Claims 1-4, 11, 14-19, 26, and 29-30

In Section 8 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-4, 11, 14-19, 26, and 29-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tamura *et al.* (U.S. Patent 5,517,333; hereinafter referred to as "Tamura"). This rejection is respectfully traversed below.

Claims 1-4, 11, 14-19, 26, and 29-30, presented herein, include limitations for apparatus and method for separating the brightness and color data from the image data. The pixel values of the brightness and color data are then corrected with calculated correction coefficients.

Considering the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-4, 11, 14-19, 26, and 29-30 in Section 8 of the Office Action, it does not appear that the arguments presented by the Examiner in rejecting the claims establish how Tamura teaches or suggests claims 1-4, 11, 14-19, 26, and 29-30. Specifically, it does not appear that the arguments presented by the Examiner establish how Tamura teaches or suggests separating the brightness and color data from the image data, and correcting the pixel values of the brightness and color data with calculated correction coefficients.

Based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-4, 11, 14-19, 26, and 29-30 are not anticipated by the teachings of Tamura, as presented and referenced by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-4, 11, 14-19, 26, and 29-30 based upon 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

§102 Rejection of Claims 1-10 and 16-25

In Section 9 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-10 and 16-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Takamori (U.S. Patent 6,252,995). This rejection is respectfully traversed below.

Claims 1-10 and 16-25, presented herein, include limitations for apparatus and method for separating the brightness and color data from the image data. The pixel values of the brightness and color data are then corrected with calculated correction coefficients.

Considering the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-10 and 16-25 in Section 9 of the Office Action, it does not appear that the arguments presented by the Examiner in rejecting the claims establish how Takamori teaches or suggests claims 1-10 and 16-25. Specifically, it does not appear that the arguments presented by the Examiner establish how Takamori teaches or suggests separating the brightness and color data from the image data, and correcting the pixel values of the brightness and color data with calculated correction coefficients.

Based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-10 and 16-25 are not anticipated by the teachings of Takamori, as presented and referenced by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner's rejection of claims 1-10 and 16-25 based upon 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

§103 Rejection of Claims 13 and 28

In Section 11 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 13 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tamura, in view of Ohtsubo *et al.* (U.S. Patent 5,170,249; hereinafter referred to as “Ohtsubo”). This rejection is respectfully traversed below.

Claims 13 and 28 depend from claims 1 and 16, respectively. As discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 16, claims 13 and 28 also include limitations for apparatus and method for separating the brightness and color data from the image data. The pixel values of the brightness and color data are then corrected with calculated correction coefficients.

It appears that Ohtsubo teaches an imaging system to provide image data for standard TV system, wherein “a color signal is generally modulated to be multiplexed with a luminance signal.” Ohtsubo, column 10, lines 62-64. However, it appears that Ohtsubo fails to teach or suggest separating the brightness and color data from the image data. Therefore, it does not appear that the arguments presented by the Examiner in rejecting claims 13 and 28 establish how Tamura and Ohtsubo, individually or in combination, teach or suggest separating the brightness and color data from the image data, and correcting the pixel values of the brightness and color data with calculated correction coefficients.

Based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 13 and 28 are not rendered obvious by the teachings of Tamura and Ohtsubo, as presented and referenced by the Examiner.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner’s rejection of claims 13 and 28 based upon 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

§103 Rejection of Claims 12 and 27

In Section 12 of the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 12 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tamura, in view of Morikawa (U.S. Patent 5,550,955). This rejection is respectfully traversed below.

Claims 12 and 27 depend from claims 1 and 16, respectively. As discussed above with respect to claims 1 and 16, claims 12 and 27 also include limitations for apparatus and method for separating the brightness and color data from the image data. The pixel values of the brightness and color data are then corrected with calculated correction coefficients.

It appears that Morikawa teaches an imaging correction system wherein “the number of data bits in the image output device is smaller than that of the image reading and processing device.” Morikawa, column 2, lines 42-44. However, it appears that Morikawa fails to teach or suggest separating the brightness and color data from the image data. Therefore, it does not appear that the arguments presented by the Examiner in rejecting claims 12 and 27 establish how Tamura and Morikawa, individually or in combination, teach or suggest separating the brightness and color data from the image data, and correcting the pixel values of the brightness and color data with calculated correction coefficients.

Based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 12 and 27 are not rendered obvious by the teachings of Tamura and Morikawa, as presented and referenced by the Examiner. Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner’s rejection of claims 12 and 27 based upon 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been overcome by the present remarks and withdrawal thereof is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, and the allowance of this application with claims 1-13 and 16-28 are respectfully solicited.

In regard to the claims amended herein and throughout the prosecution of this application, it is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicant is entitled.

In the event that additional cooperation in this case may be helpful to complete its prosecution, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact Applicant's representative at the telephone number written below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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FIG. 13

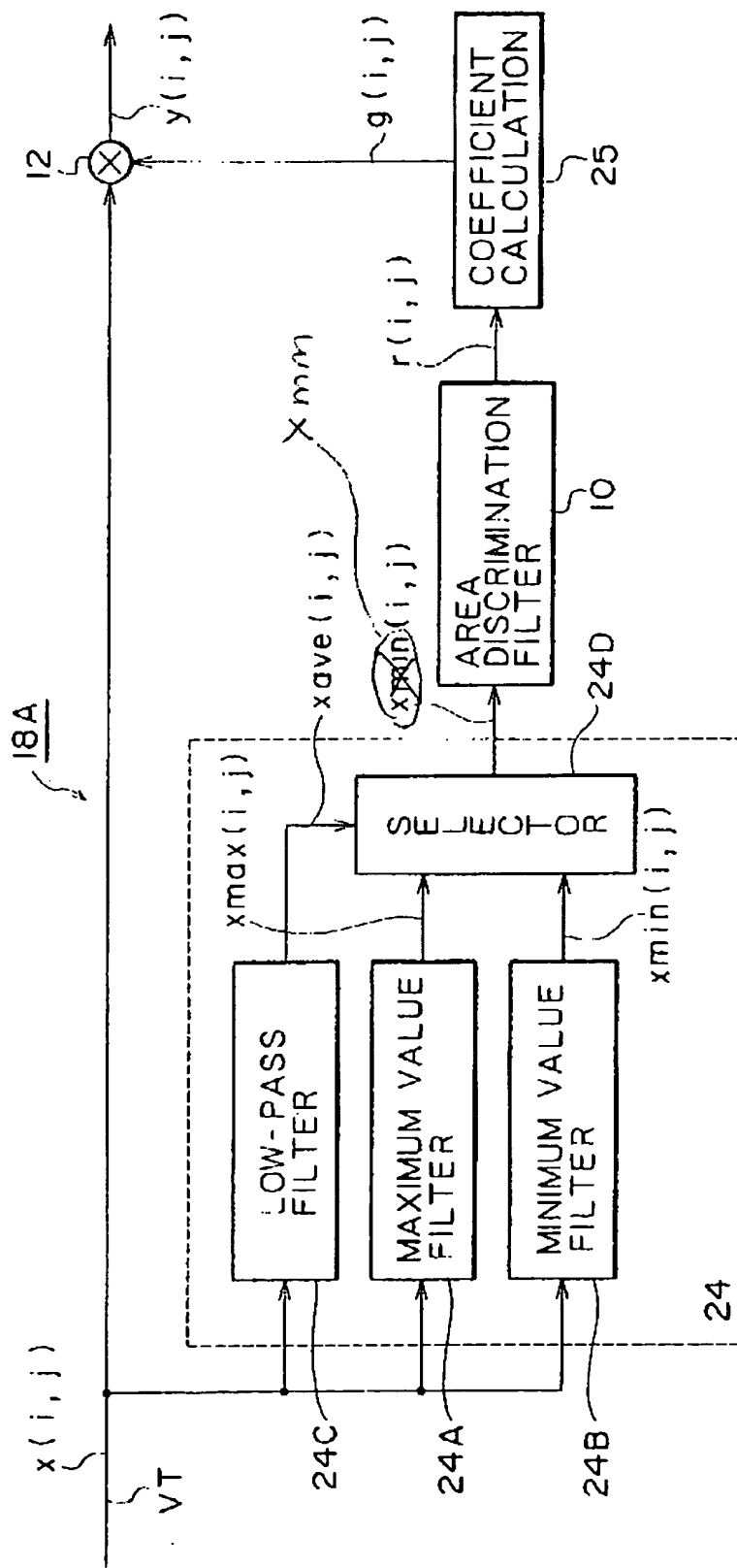




FIG. 29

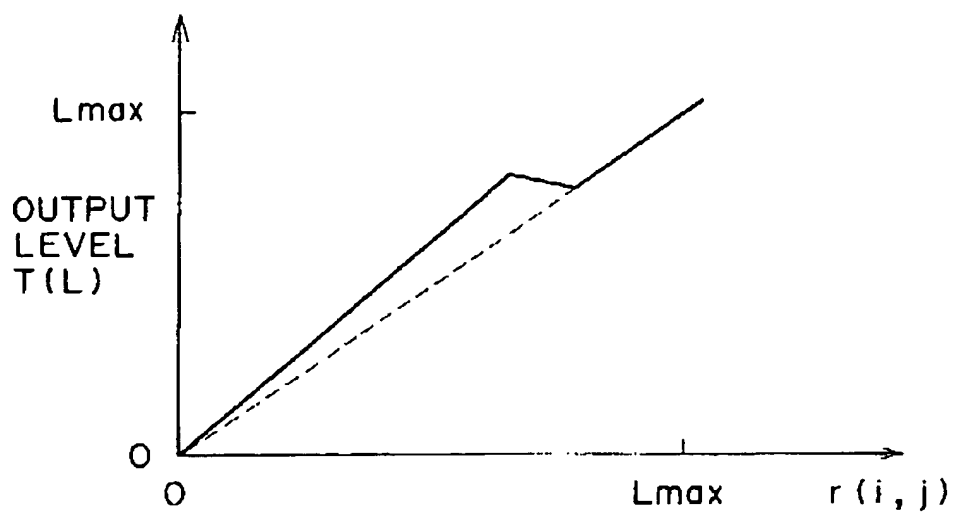


FIG. 30 (PRIOR ART)

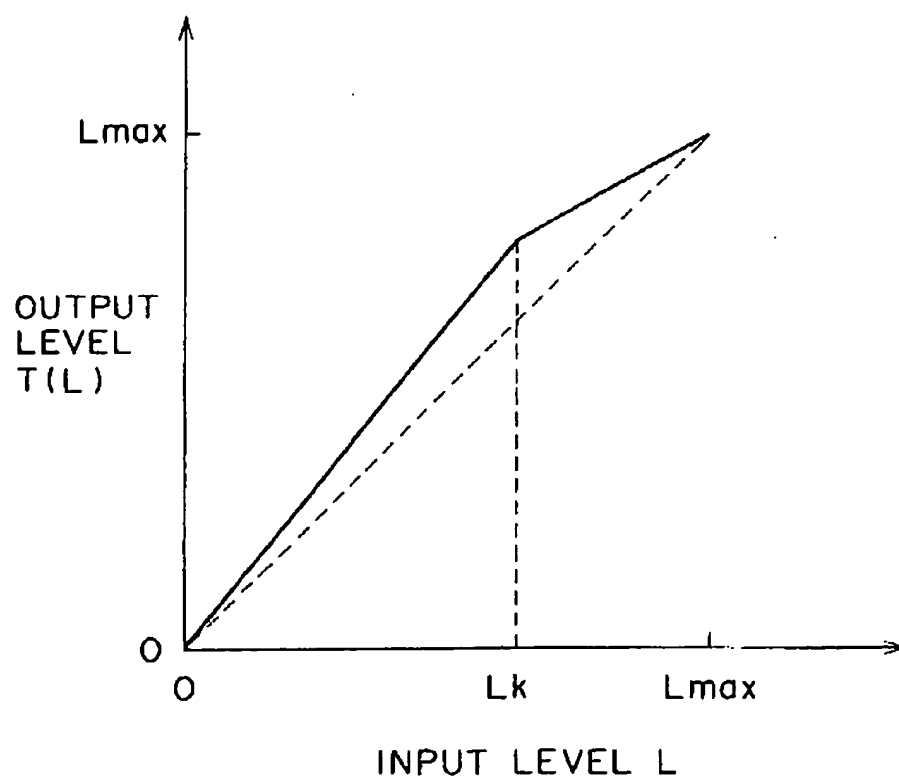




FIG. 31
(PRIOR ART)

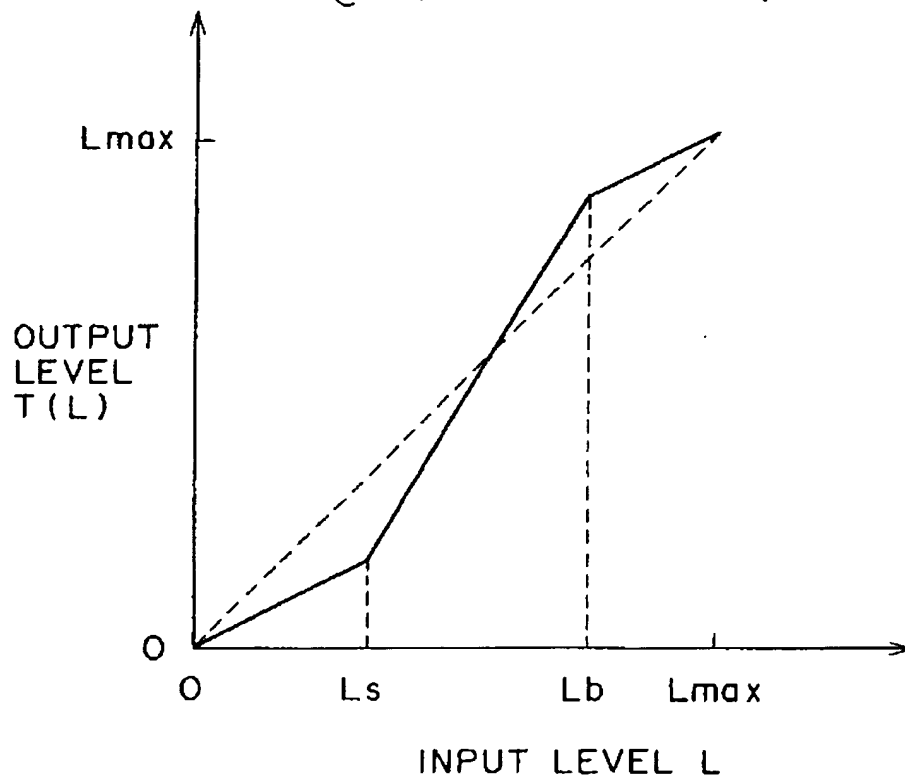


FIG. 32
(PRIOR ART)

